

## **Recombinant interferon ALFA-2A in combination with carboplatin, vinblastine, and bleomycin in the treatment of advanced malignant melanoma.**

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### **Source**

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### **Abstract**

Thirty-four patients with advanced malignant melanoma were treated with recombinant alpha-interferon (IFN) and chemotherapy consisting of carboplatin, vinblastine, and bleomycin (CVB). CVB was given for four cycles and IFN for 1 year or until progression. Of the 34 analyzed patients, 17 (50%) achieved an objective response, including two complete (6%) and 15 partial responses (44%). Responses were noted in cutaneous, lymph node, and pulmonary sites, with a median time to disease progression of 5 months (range, 3-20 months). The median survival from onset of therapy was 8 months (range, 1-22 months) for the 34 patients. Ninety-four percent of the patients experienced flu-like symptoms and 82% fatigue or weakness. Leukopenia grade 3-4 was observed in four patients (12%). There were two toxicity-related deaths (6%); one from bleomycin-induced pneumonitis and one from neutropenic sepsis. It is concluded that the addition of IFN to CVB regimen, in this study, showed no apparent advantage on response rates, disease-free interval, or survival. The observed treatment-related mortality was unacceptably high. IFN administered as maintenance therapy following CVB conferred no survival benefit.